

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of SUPPORT to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers.

By merging, the combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable television and can offer more programming choices and, most importantly, all local TV channels in every market in the U.S.

In the end, the importance of the merger lies in the ability of a combined Dish/DIRECTV to be better equipped to compete with Cable and to offer a better product to the consumer.

I believe in competition and in my estimation, the contest has never been between Dish Network and DirectTV, but between Satellite and Cable. The merger will help Satellite to better compete in a market where previously Cable has long been this country's only alternative.

This merger will make satellite television a strong alternative to cable in my community. Throughout the country, people will now be able to turn to satellite TV to access their local news, weather and community information, in addition to a comprehensive package of national video programming.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

William M Roach
116 Saratoga Circle
Richmond, KY 40475